

REMARKS

I. Status of the Claims/Restriction Requirement

Claims 1 and 3-36 have been withdrawn as drawn to a non-elected invention without prejudice.

Claim 2 has been canceled.

The Examiner has characterized the claims as encompassing two (2) distinct inventions. These inventions were designated in the following groups:

Group I. Claims 1-36, drawn to a microchip device and method of making said device;
and

Group II. Claims 37-80 and 85-87, drawn to a method of performing electrophoresis.

In response to the restriction requirement, Applicant hereby elects the claims of Group 2 (Claims 37-80 and 85-87), without prejudice. The non-elected claims have been withdrawn.

II. Supplemental Information Disclosure/Enhanced First Interview Pilot Program

Applicants also submit herewith a Supplementary Information Disclosure Statement. Applicants are in receipt of correspondence mailed November 2, 2009 in the present application that reports that the application has met the requirements to participate in the USPTO's Enhanced First Action Interview Pilot Program. Applicants intend to seek participation in the Program as outlined in the Communication. The Examiner is invited to contact Applicant's undersigned representative in regard to this Program in the interest of expediting the prosecution of the present application to allowance.

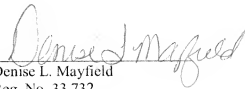
III. Conclusion

The present paper is submitted to constitute a complete response to the Office Action mailed October 21, 2009. Applicant's undersigned representative respectfully requests an

additional telephone conference should the Examiner have any suggestions or comments that would expedite the prosecution of the present case to allowance.

Respectfully submitted,

K&L GATES, LLP

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